



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics Service

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 27

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Corn planting was in full swing in many areas of the state last week. Corn planting is 4 days ahead of the average pace and far ahead of last year. Planting of soybeans also made good progress in some areas, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Many areas of the state received some rain last week. However, more precipitation is needed as deficient soil moisture continues to be a major concern in some areas. Tillage of fields continued along with spreading of fertilizer. Some of the early seeded oat fields have emerged. Cold temperatures has slowed emergence of early planted corn fields. Frost occurred in many areas of the state last week.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.1 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Twenty-six percent of the intended **corn** acreage is planted compared with 4 percent last year and 14 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 29 percent of the corn acreage is planted in the north, 28 percent in the central region and 17 percent in the south. One percent of the corn acreage has **emerged**, on par with average. Anhydrous ammonia continued to be applied on many fields.

Seventy-five percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 73 percent last year and 81 percent for the 5-year average. Two percent of the winter wheat is **headed** compared 1 percent last year and 4 percent for the average. Winter wheat **condition** improved and is rated 82 percent good to excellent compared with 62 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week were tillage of soils, spreading dry fertilizer, spraying chemicals, preparing equipment, moving grain to market, hauling manure, cleaning fence rows, purchasing supplies, along with taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 8 percent excellent, 48 percent good, 32 percent fair, 10 percent poor and 2 percent very poor. Hay supplies remain short in most areas of the state. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Lambing is winding up. Spring calving remains active.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Corn Planted	26	9	4	14
Corn Emerged	1	0	0	1
Soybeans Planted	4	NA	0	4
Winter Wheat Jointed	75	57	73	81
Winter Wheat Headed	2	0	1	4

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	2	10	32	48	8
Winter Wheat 2003	0	2	16	62	20
Winter Wheat 2002	0	7	31	52	10

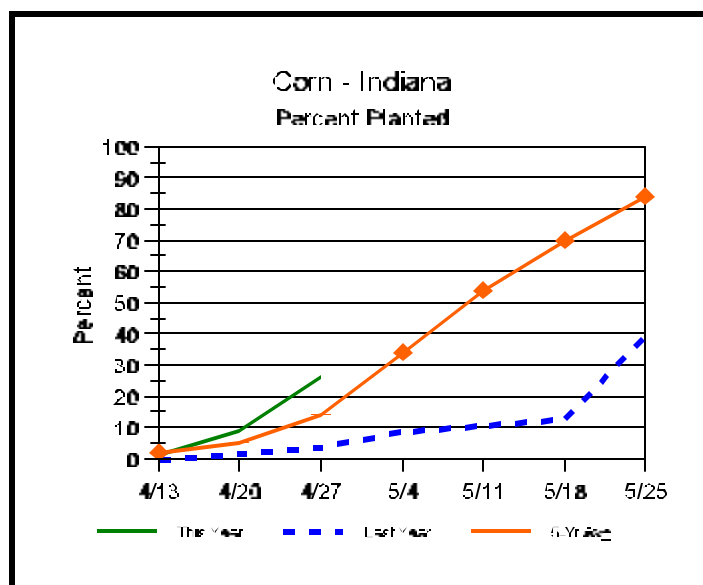
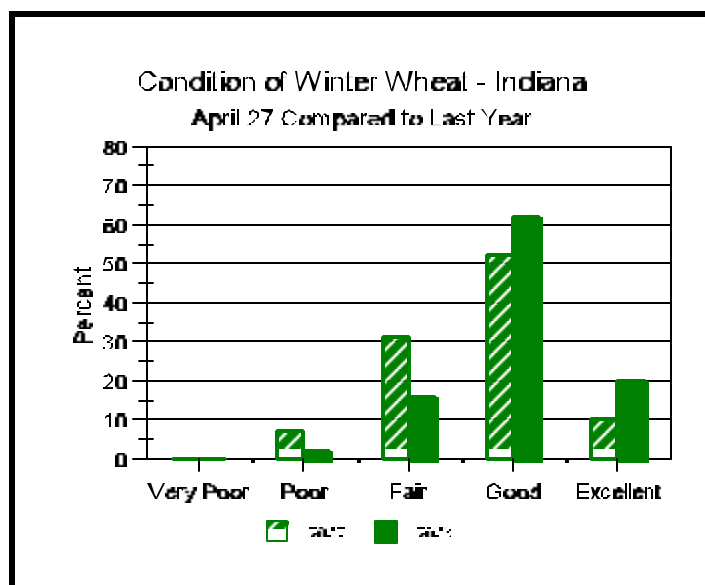
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	3	0
Short	15	12	0
Adequate	59	70	37
Surplus	23	15	63
Subsoil			
Very Short	6	6	0
Short	19	20	1
Adequate	65	66	52
Surplus	10	8	47
Days Suitable	4.1	4.6	1.4

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Catch the Drift? - Hopefully Not!

As we enter the busy spray season, we felt it was important to review a few issues concerning spray drift. Spray drift is becoming an important issue in many communities in both the rural and urban settings. There are a number of extension publications on spray drift and recent ones by the University of Wisconsin titled *Managing Pesticide Drift in Wisconsin: Field Sprayers (X1000)* and University of Missouri Extension titled *Controlling Drift of Crop Protection Materials* (guidesheet G1886) address in more detail many of the specific issues responsible for minimizing pesticide drift.

Remember, drift increases as...

...spray droplet size decreases because smaller droplets fall more slowly and are more easily moved by wind;

When there is no air movement a 50 :m droplet will fall at a theoretical rate of 15 ft./min. A 200 :m droplet will fall 150 ft./min.

Many of the conditions that effect drift effect droplet size and the percent of small droplets produced.

Page 4 has a list of variables that can affect droplet size (Table 1). No matter what the situation, there will always be a certain amount of small particles. The key is to reduce the percentage of these small particles.

...wind speed increases because droplets are carried farther before they can be deposited;

As one would expect wind is one of the larger considerations. Wind direction can be both a tool and a problem. As a simple tool, try to spray when the direction may lead drift away from sensitive plants and residences. As a problem: spraying up wind of sensitive plants and residences. However, we can always wait around for the "winds to change."

...nozzle height from target surface increases because droplets take longer to reach the target surface;

...temperature rises and relative humidity falls because water in spray droplets evaporates, making droplets smaller.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday April 27, 2003

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2003 thru				
	Temperature				4 in		Soil	April 27, 2003				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Precipitation	DFN	Days	Total	GDD Base 50°F
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	73	28	48	-7	0.79	4	52	3.10	-0.14	11	130	+35
Valparaiso_AP_I	69	29	49	-4	0.21	2		2.32	-1.25	8	133	+67
Wanatah	68	27	47	-5	0.31	2	54	2.78	-0.66	9	107	+57
Wheatfield	71	28	49	-3	0.17	1		2.53	-0.89	7	137	+84
Winamac	70	29	48	-5	0.18	3	51	2.22	-1.10	9	134	+64
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	70	28	47	-7	0.51	3		2.29	-1.19	8	118	+40
South_Bend	69	28	48	-4	0.16	2		2.89	-0.58	8	138	+80
Young_America	74	29	49	-4	0.38	3		1.68	-1.43	10	137	+69
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	75	28	48	-3	0.44	3	50	2.21	-1.05	10	109	+62
Fort_Wayne	76	26	48	-5	0.25	2		2.26	-0.79	7	112	+49
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	73	25	49	-8	1.55	4		2.43	-0.87	11	139	+29
Perrysville	72	28	50	-5	0.75	4	55	2.57	-0.91	8	163	+75
Spencer_Ag	74	28	51	-4	1.82	4		2.89	-0.69	9	147	+53
Terre_Haute_AFB	75	29	51	-5	2.25	4		3.05	-0.42	9	174	+63
W_Lafayette_6NW	73	27	49	-4	0.62	4	53	2.54	-0.78	11	153	+82
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	72	30	51	-5	0.93	4		1.66	-1.65	9	167	+65
Greenfield	72	28	50	-5	1.13	4		2.76	-0.84	9	147	+66
Indianapolis_AP	70	27	49	-6	1.08	3		2.08	-1.23	8	167	+65
Indianapolis_SE	72	25	50	-6	1.18	3		2.76	-0.57	8	152	+60
Tipton_Ag	73	26	48	-5	0.65	3	54	1.54	-1.96	7	110	+54
East Central (6)												
Farmland	75	26	49	-3	0.60	3	48	1.39	-1.82	7	117	+66
New_Castle	72	26	47	-6	0.48	3		1.34	-2.31	7	100	+45
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	78	37	56	-4	1.35	5		3.60	+0.01	10	225	+48
Freelandville	73	37	54	-3	1.94	4		3.12	-0.31	9	181	+55
Shoals	78	31	53	-4	1.92	3		3.30	-0.35	7	186	+62
Stendal	77	36	55	-3	2.26	3		3.99	+0.02	9	207	+59
Vincennes_5NE	77	34	53	-4	1.99	3	58	2.97	-0.46	9	185	+59
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	76	34	53	-4	1.54	4		3.46	-0.67	11	192	+63
Oolitic	76	30	52	-4	1.56	4	53	3.39	-0.19	9	170	+64
Tell_City	78	41	57	-2	1.73	3		4.65	+0.32	8	257	+99
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	76	29	51	-3	0.96	4		1.97	-1.44	8	162	+85
Milan_5NE	75	30	51	-3	1.14	4		2.60	-0.81	10	153	+76
Scottsburg	78	29	53	-5	3.10	3		5.63	+1.87	9	174	+48

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Catch the Drift? - Hopefully Not! (Continued)

Table 1. Factors affecting droplet size		
Factor	Effect	Suggestion
Application pressure	Increasing pressure increases the percentage of fine droplets.	Set spray boom pressure to the lower range specified by specific nozzle types. Utilize nozzles which can be operated at 30 psi or less.
Nozzle type	The nozzle and orifice type can influence droplet size.	Use nozzles that produce larger droplet size or can be operated at lower pressure.
Temperature and relative humidity	High temperatures and low relative humidity will result in evaporation of water, decreasing droplet size.	Wait until later in the day when temperatures are lower or use a drift reduction agent spray additive.
Herbicide formulation and spray additives	Herbicide formulations and spray additives such as drift reduction agents can change the physical characteristics of the carrier or alter its viscosity.	Use low volatility formulations when possible. Examples of these would be low volatile esters and amine formulations of 2,4-D. Drift reduction agents are designed to increase spray viscosity and droplet size.

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